

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 04689 122340Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07
TRSE-00 OMB-01 /062 W
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O R 122105Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1485
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4689

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV

FROM USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE
SUBJECT: BELGRADE CSCE: SOVIET HINTS ABOUT A PREPARATORY
MEETING COMMUNIQUE

1. SOVIET DELEGATES, DURING THE PAST WEEK, HAVE DROPPED
SEVERAL HINTS WITH WESTERN DELEGATES TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY
MAY WISH TO HAVE AN AGREED COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION
OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING. IN MOST SPECIFIC CONVERSATION
OF THIS KIND, THIRD-RANKING MEMBER OF SOVIET DEL (KUTOVOI)
TOLD A U.S. DEL OFFICER THAT SOVIETS PREFERRED A SIMPLE
COMMUNIQUE OF SOME KIND WHICH COULD BE GIVEN TO THE PRESS AT
THE END OF THE MEETING. KUTOVOI SUGGESTED THAT THIS BRIEF
DOCUMENT COULD SUMMARIZE FACTUAL ASPECTS OF PREPARATORY
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 04689 122340Z

MEETING AND LOOK FORWARD TO "POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE" MAIN
MEETING.

2. USDEL OFFICER TOLD KUTOVOI WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE
SUFFICIENT SIMPLY TO HAND OUT THE AGREED DOCUMENT ON THE
AGENDA AND MODALITIES FOR THE MAIN MEETING, SINCE THAT
REFLECTED THE ASSIGNED TASKS OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING.

WE ALSO SAID WE THOUGHT IT WOULD POSE CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES TO TRY TO NEGOTIATE ANOTHER DOCUMENT AT THE PREPARATORY MEETING, ESPECIALLY ONE WHICH WAS TO CHARACTERIZE THE MAIN MEETING AS "POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE." KUTOVOI EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT THERE SHOULD BE ANY RELUCTANCE TO SAY THAT THE MAIN MEETING WOULD BE "POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE." USDEL OFFICER SAID THAT IT WAS NOT THE TASK OF A TECHNICAL PREPARATORY MEETING TO CHARACTERIZE HOW A LATER, HIGHER-LEVEL MEETING WOULD BE CARRIED OUT.

2. WE ARE NOT SURE HOW MUCH WEIGHT TO GIVE TO THESE SOVIET HINTS. THEY HAVE BEEN MADE AT A RELATIVELY LOWER LEVEL AND FAIRLY LATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING. FOR THESE REASONS, THEY MAY BE PROBINGS WHICH WILL BE DEFLECTED BY THE NEGATIVE REACTIONS THE SOVIETS ARE SURE TO GET FROM WESTERN DELEGATIONS. THE ROMANIANS, SUPPORTED BY THE POLES, HAVE MORE RECENTLY SUGGESTED ADDING SOME FACTUAL LANGUAGE TO THE BEGINNING OF THE NNA PAPER TO INDICATE THE DATES OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING, ETC. THIS WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF MAKING THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING LOOK MORE LIKE A COMMUNIQUE, AND MAY BE INTENDED AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO A SEPARATE COMMUNIQUE.

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PAGE 03 BELGRA 04689 122340Z

4. WE WILL REPORT ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS ON THIS MATTER.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 12-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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